

**Amendments to the claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

30. (new) A purified peptide consisting of sequence ERRGHLRPSFHGHHEKGKEGQVLQRS  
(OB-CDGF) (SEQ ID NO: 10).

31. (new) A method comprising administering the peptide according to claim 30 to a person in need thereof to promote proliferation of osteoblasts.

32. (new) A medicament containing the purified peptide according claim 30, together with auxiliary agents.

33. (new) A medicament containing the purified peptide according claim 30 in a galenic formulation.

34. (new) The medicament according to claim 32 in a form for administration selected from the group consisting of (a) a galenic formulation, wherein administration is by oral.

intravenous, intramuscular, intracutaneous, or intrathecal route, and (b) an aerosol, wherein administration is transpulmonary.

35. (new) Use of the purified peptide claim 30 comprising administering the purified peptide to maintain or promote bone growth in a person suffering from a degenerative or metabolic disease of the bones.

36. (new) The use of claim 35, wherein the disease is osteoporosis, osteomalacia, or osteopenia.

37. (new) A method comprising administering the peptide according to claim 30 to a person in need thereof to protect or promote bone density.

38. (new) A process for the preparation of the purified peptide according to claim 30 comprising

- isolating the peptide from a hemofiltrate using (i) cation-exchange extraction followed by (ii) elution of adsorbed substances to produce a first extract containing proteins, (iii) renewed cation-exchange chromatography of the first extract to produce a second extract containing proteins, and subjecting the second extract to multistage reverse-phase chromatography to produce the purified peptide protein; or
- synthesizing the peptide by solid-phase or liquid-phase synthesis; or
- recombinant, heterologous expression of DNA encoding the peptide.